GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4408
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2004
RECLAMATION OF WASTE LAND
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

:

(a) The State-wise details of total area of waste land in the country ;

(b) The schemes formulated for reclamation of waste land during the last three years and till date; and

(c) The State-wise allocation of funds made for these schemes ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) As per the Wastelands Atlas of India- 2000 published by the Department of Land Resources in collaboration with National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad, the total area of wastelands in the country is 63.85 million hectares. State-wise break up of wastelands is given in Annexure-I.

(b)The Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) for the development of wastelands in accordance with the common guidelines for watershed development w.e.f. 1.4.1995. In addition, there are two other Area Development Programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert development Programme (DDP) being implemented in pre-identified blocks in the semi-arid and arid regions of the country.

(c) No State-wise allocation of funds is made under IWDP, DPAP and DDP. As these are demand driven programmes, funds are released to the concerned Zilla Panchayats/District Rural Development Agencies for the implementation of projects sanctioned as per their demand and availability of funds under these programmes. Details of the funds released during the last three years and till date under these programmes is given in Annexure-II.